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PRICE ONE CENT.

MORTON SIGNS THE GREATER CITY BILL.

Completes the Act Making New York the World's Second Metropolis.

A Long Considered Deed, Consummated in Ten Seconds, Consolidates a Vast Territory.

Scene of the Signature, Comment in Albany, Gratification in Many Places, and Joy Among Brooklyn Unionists.

Sen P. Morton

Above is the signature which, written yesterday by the Governor of the State of New York, made the city of New York the second largest city in the world. That signature spread the municipality, once confined to that portion of Manhattan Island below Wall street, over nearly 360 square miles of territory. By its few strokes it widened the limits nearly 251 square miles, doubled the population and consolidated three large cities.

London remains territorially in point of population and commerce the chief city of the world. After London there is no city but the Greater New York which began to exist yesterday on the filing by the Governor of the signed bill with the Secretary of State.

And here, too, is the pen with which the deed was done, a firm yet flexible pen of gold, set in a holder comfortable to the grasp of a Governor's fingers. It is a pen fit for great deeds and worthy of the signature it affixed to the bill. It traced firm lines without much shading, evidencing the calm, contented pose of the man. It wrote settled purpose largely, testifying that in Morton's mind there had been no doubt of his duty to make the bill a law.

The Greater New York thus created will have 1,100 churches and 90 post offices, exclusive of stamp selling stations; a debt of \$170,000,000 and \$2,583,324,329 in taxable property. It will contain 37,000 business houses, 130,000 dwellings, 6,000 acres in parks, 900 miles of paved streets, 900 miles of sewer, 1,800 miles of gas mains, 1,100 miles of street and elevated railroads, and 350 public schools. It will have enough paved streets to build a paved roadway, with sewers and gas mains, to Chicago, and will have enough street and elevated railroad tracks to reach to St. Louis. This road could have a hotel every mile and leave Greater New York a few to spare.

No law for many years has had such a stormy passage through legislative waters as this. Passed with difficulty and amid scenes in both Houses that will become historic, it was, under the Constitutional provision, submitted to the Mayors of New York, Brooklyn and Long Island City.

The Mayors of New York and Brooklyn, both belonging to the dominant party, disapproved the bill, because they thought it unwise and injudicious, while the Democratic executive of Long Island City endorsed it, and again it was passed in both Houses, in pursuance of the constitutional requirements, with the Republican party of Brooklyn and Tammany opposing.

The important step that must next be taken by the Governor is the appointment of the nine members of the Commission not named in the law. Governor Morton's share in this important work will then be concluded, unless he should again be the State's chief executive.

Albany, May 11.—Greater New York has been decreed. The decree is chapter 488 of the laws of 1896, a chapter created to-day when, at 1 o'clock, the Governor affixed his signature to the amended Lexow Consolidation bill.

It was five minutes of 1 o'clock this afternoon when the Governor called his private secretary, Colonel Ashley W. Cole, and said: "I think I had better disapprove of the Greater New York bill to-day."

The Colonel hustled into the room where the Statutory Revision Committee sits and told Professor Charles Z. Lincoln, the Governor's legal adviser, and the Professor accompanied the Colonel to the Executive Chamber. On the way they overtook the Governor's military secretary, Colonel Seiden E. Marvin, who had just returned from lunch.

The three gentlemen took the bill out of the safe and carried it to the Governor. He laid it on the desk, wiped his eyeglasses and put them on. Messengers Lamborn and O'Connor looked through the doorway leading to the ante-chamber. They were much interested. Brother Leontine, of the Christian Brothers, who happened in, sat on one of the leather covered sofas that line the wall. Colonels Cole and Marvin and Professor Lincoln grouped themselves around the Governor, who took up a huge fountain pen and, after trying it on a piece of blank paper and finding it wrote smoothly, signed his name to the bill. Just ten seconds were consumed in making the signature, and the last stroke was one minute after 1 o'clock.

Copies of the Governor's memorandum were distributed within a few minutes. That expression of the Gov-

SUICIDE FROM REMORSE.

Hoboken Man, Grossly Insulted by His Wife, Strikes Her and then Kills Himself.

George Gland, fifty-seven years old, who kept a saloon at No. 217 Washington street, Hoboken, and lived in the apartments over the saloon, killed himself yesterday afternoon through remorse, at having struck his wife. In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Gland, Sergeant Rathgen, of the Hoboken police, who was off duty, and several others were seated at a table in Gland's place.

Mrs. Gland has a friend named Mrs. Russler, who formerly owned a saloon on the east side in this city. She sold it not long ago for \$1,500, and there has since been some dispute relative to a \$2,000 mortgage held by a brewer. During the conversation Mrs. Gland remarked how fortunate her friend was to obtain such a good price for her saloon. Mr. Gland replied in a manner reflecting on Mrs. Russler and her connection with the mortgage. Mrs. Gland said she did not want to hear her friend spoken of in the manner her husband had spoken, and warm words followed.

Finally, it is alleged, Mrs. Gland spat in her husband's face. He struck her and she struck back. Leaping to his feet he grabbed a chair and brought it down on her head. The blow was partially stopped by Sergeant Rathgen, but a scalp wound was inflicted. Blood flowed and Gland became immediately repentant and helped to staunch its flow. Sergeant Rathgen went out to purchase some sticking plaster. While he was out Gland went to an upper room. A short time afterward he was found on the bed with two pistol shot wounds in the right temple. He was dead.

CAUGHT HIS BURGLAR SON.

Bauman Was About to Strike Down the Robber in the Dark When He Recognized Him.

Jacob Bauman, twenty years old, was committed to the County Jail by Justice of the Peace Simon, at Paterson, N. J., yesterday morning for robbing his father's store at No. 94 River street.

Bauman, senior, is in the clothing business, and has mixed goods from his store for several months. He lives above the store and early yesterday morning thought he heard a noise there. He descended to the salesroom, and as he entered stumbled over a bundle of clothing packed, ready for transportation.

Then he saw the form of the burglar rise from behind a counter. The merchant was armed with a club, and raised it to strike the burglar down. As he was about to do so the burglar turned and father and son were face to face.

The son made his escape through a rear window, but was afterwards arrested. He served a term in jail three years ago for stealing a watch.

BIG SNAKE ON THE AVENUE.

Supposed Copperhead Frightens Many Women and is Pursued and Killed.

A snake about two feet in length and an inch and a half in circumference, believed to be a copperhead, made its appearance on Fifth avenue yesterday, and after an exciting chase for over a block met its death at the hands of George Hicks, of No. 78 Eighth avenue. Over a hundred men and women were in at the death, but none ventured within a dozen feet of the snake with the exception of Mr. Hicks.

It was about 3 o'clock when the snake first made its appearance on the wall of the reservoir at Fifth avenue and Forty-second street. It glided down the damp wall, across the grass, and had just curled around a cool iron railing when two women spied it and screamed. A swish from a coachman's whip aroused the snake, and it glided down the railing and zig-zagged down the avenue.

At Fortieth street the snake darted across the avenue to Colonel Kipp's house, where Mr. Hicks killed it.

CHOSE A TERRIBLE METHOD OF DYING.

Prevented Jumping from a Roof, McKee Burned Himself to a Crisp.

Overturned an Oil Stove in His Room and Imperilled the Lives of Thirty Persons.

Flames Discovered by Neighbors, Who Warned the Lodgers and They Escaped.

THE OLD MAN WAS FORGOTTEN.

After the Fire Had Been Extinguished McKee's Body Was Found, but It Couldn't Be Recognized—He Was Eccentric and Peddled Books.

Day in and day out old William McKee went about the streets of Brooklyn with his little package of religious books, by the sale of which he earned his living. His scant hair was white with the snows of seventy-five winters, his back was bent and his legs were feeble. Day by day he grew milder weak and last evening he put an end to his miserable life, and in doing so imperiled the lives of nearly thirty persons. A fire was discovered in the boarding-house in which he lived, and when the flames had been extinguished, the firemen found the old man's body in his room. It was burned to a crisp.

William McKee lived at No. 419 Livingston street. The house is of brick, four stories high, and is owned by Mrs. C. Southard, whose son was mixed up in the Columbian Celebration scandals some years ago. Mrs. Southard had a number of boarders. McKee was merely a lodger.

He occupied a furnished room, an apartment off the hall at the rear of the top floor. Mrs. Southard and the other tenants saw little of him. He was a book canvasser, but sold only religious publications. In the morning he went out with his books; in the evening he returned. It was known he had lived many years in Brooklyn, but he never told the story of his lonely life. He was seldom seen or heard, so quietly did he go through the hallways to and from his little room.

He did all his housekeeping in his own apartment. An oil stove cooked his breakfast and his supper, neither of which was ever very large.

During the past week the old man, always eccentric, acted in a way so strange that the boarders concluded that the flame of reason was flickering and going out. A queer light gleamed in the sunken eyes and the lips were ever moving as if the old man were talking to himself, when a boarder met him by accident. He stopped making his daily rounds, and it is thought his business had failed him altogether.

It was nearly 6 o'clock last evening when a boarder walking up Livingston street saw something which startled him. He ran breathlessly up the stairs to the top floor. There was a ladder under the skylight, which was open. The boarder ascended to the roof, and there he found McKee.

The old man was almost naked, and was walking toward the coping. The boarder caught him and asked where he was going. A vacant stare was the only answer. The question was repeated, and McKee muttered something about the heat downstairs.

"But you cannot stay up here; you must go down to your room," the boarder said. McKee protested, but was finally induced to descend the ladder.

All the boarders were at supper half an hour later, when a neighbor rushed in, shouting that the house was on fire. There

was a scramble to get out doors at once. When the boarders were on the street they saw flames pouring in thick clouds from the fourth story windows. Soon the flames followed, and the upper part of the house was blazing before the firemen arrived.

Three streams were at once turned upon the burning house, while the firemen removed many articles of value from the lower part of the building. In the excitement McKee was forgotten entirely. It was not until half an hour later, when the flames had been subdued, that some one asked where he was. The firemen, going through the building, found him.

Looking for the source of the fire they found it in the little rear room on the top floor, and there they discovered also its most terrible result. In one corner of the room, lying beside the overturned oil stove, was what the fire had left of William McKee. He had been burned to a crisp. There was nothing recognizable about the corpse, and had it not been found in McKee's room it would not have been identified. It is believed that the old man, falling in an attempt to commit suicide by flinging himself from the roof, overturned the oil stove and set fire to the building. The body was removed to the morgue by the police of the Adams Street Station.

The damage to Mrs. Southard's house was \$2,000. The top floor was gutted and the floor below damaged by water.

Last night Assistant Fire Marshal Walter Thorn learned something of McKee's history. He had lived for fifteen years in the house which he died. About thirty years ago he was a man of means, and gave considerable money to the Sands Street M. E. Church. He has since been a lay missionary connected with the church.

Thorn saw several members of the congregation last night, and they said they would see that the old man received a Christian burial if no one else claimed the body. It is thought McKee had a wife and children from whom he was separated years ago.

GENERAL BOOTH JOYFUL.

Head of the Salvation Army Says the Organization in America is Triumphant.

By Julian Ralph. London, May 11.—General Booth, in a speech at Newcastle last night, alluded to America, introducing the subject by saying he had just met his daughter, Eva Booth, at Liverpool, who, he said, was quite well and none the worse for her five weeks of hard work in America.

He said he had news from America that things were looking up splendidly. Out of the 2,000 officers, up to the present they had only lost fifty, and 500 of the rank and file, and that many of these were returning daily. He looked upon it as a magnificent triumph.

Commander and Mrs. Booth-Tucker, he added, were getting on well and that the Army had been saved by the American people who had stood firm to the organization.

FOUL PLAY SUSPECTED.

It is Believed in Rome that Cardinal Galimberti's Death Was Not Due to Natural Causes.

London, May 11.—The Rome correspondent of the Daily News telegraphs that persistent rumors are in circulation that the death of Cardinal Galimberti, Prefect of the Pontifical Archives, was not due to natural causes.

It is suspected that he was poisoned. An examination into the matter has been demanded.

SPAIN AND THE JOURNAL.

Berlin Newspapers' Comment on the Spanish Government's Dispatch.

By Henry W. Fischer. Berlin, May 11.—All the evening papers to-day comment on the Spanish Government's cable dispatch to the Journal regarding the Competitor case.

The official Nord Deutsche reprints the message, and, in addition, sneeringly criticizes the Spanish Premier's statements about discouragements among the Cubans. The Kreuz Zeitung apparently enjoys the complications that have arisen over the death sentences pronounced upon the Competitor captives by the Havana naval court-martial. Discussing the Cuban revolution, it says that the reports of Spanish victories are as monotonous as they are untruthful.

"It is clear," says the Vorlesche, "that Spain is about to lose Cuba. It is too late now to propose reforms."

"Spain ought to know," declares the Lokalanzeiger, "that a conflict with America would make it impossible for her to hold Cuba."

The Boersen Courier takes a different stand, avowing that "the Spaniards are undoubtedly right," and that "the United States should know that such culprits as were captured on the Competitor must expect to be hanged."

The Deutsche Tageszeitung, the organ of the Agrarian party, is equally hostile to the American cause. It declares that "the Spaniards would finish the miserable soldiers of the United States quicker than the insurgents."

BLOOMER GIRLS UP A TREE.

They Scramble for Safety When a Mad Dog Comes Along.

Chicago, May 11.—Two young women in bifurcated garments were spinning on their bicycles along the boulevard in Garfield Park to-day when there was a cry of "Mad dog!" The animal was heading straight down the road, but it was only the work of a moment for the riders to dismount, run for the trees and climb into the branches.

DECLARES THAT AMERICA IS IN THE RIGHT.

Spain's Government Acts as Its Prime Minister Cabled to the Journal Yesterday.

Prisoners in Cuba Will Not Be Executed Until Their Trial Is Reviewed in Spain.

European Sentiment Generally Approves of Canovas's Declaration in His Cable Dispatch to This Newspaper.

SPAIN WILL NOT GIVE UP.

The Queen Regent Declares "Misguided Sons" Cannot Have Actual Independence.

Madrid, May 11.—The new Cortes met to-day. Great interest was manifested in the speech from the throne opening the session, which it was known would deal at length with the situation in Cuba. The speech was read in person by the Queen Regent, representing the youthful King. Her Majesty said:

"Senator and Deputies: 'Heavy pre-occupations lay on my mind in addressing you on this day of the opening of the session of the Cortes. All of you have with me those pre-occupations, as I am sure they are shared by the nation. You cannot have forgotten those days, rich in hopes, of February and March last year, when the legislative bodies approved the law to reconstitute the administration of Cuba and Porto Rico.

"To their enforcement the representatives of the loyal parties of Cuba and Porto Rico pledged themselves, and those who share the power in the peninsula, but those good intentions were counteracted February 21, when the discussion had not yet begun in the Senate, by the discovery by the Governor-General of Cuba of symptoms of rebellion, and three days later it was necessary to proclaim martial law.

"It was made plain that the announcement of reforms applauded unanimously by the Liberal parties, far from restraining the secessionists, gave them impulse in resort to arms with the clear intention of preventing the application of liberal reform. Refers to America.

"From the first moment that was understood by the illustrious General to whom the pacification of the territory was entrusted, the same declaration was made to his Government by the commercial agent of the United States, who said that the revolutionists, seeing in the reforms great advantage to their country, quickened the movement in order to prevent their aspiration of creating an independent State from becoming impaired.

"The rebel chiefs, principally foreigners and negroes, did not wait long to say that they did not give importance to political, economical or administrative reforms, no matter how liberal, even the most extensive form of local home rule, if they had to submit to the sovereignty of Spain, and the good and the prosperity of Cubans were nothing to them.

On the contrary that class of revolutionists showed themselves encouragers of the groups of bandits that formed the nucleus of their forces, destroying private property, burning towns without defence, and making public that they would destroy the island if they were unable to conquer the government, and that they would thereafter dispute with arms in hand eternally.

"What the consequence would be of the substitution of another sovereignty for that of Spain over races with irreconcilable characters, there is no statesman who will not foresee. The final result would be that Cuba would make a step backward in civilization. It would be an error to imagine that the interest of the country and commerce in and out of the island of Cuba could in such conditions prosper or continue in existence.

"The Spanish nation, in the meantime, is not going to be indifferent to the future of those of her sons, misguided by imprudent political ambitions; she will not abandon the mission of civilization that she has imposed upon herself, which she has to this moment accomplished, and which her history and her honor impose upon her and much less will she deny the rights and advantages demanded with reason to those inhabitants of the Antilles, by the different political parties, who have condemned the insurgents.

"At a meeting last night of the Liberal ex-Ministers at the house of Senor there was a split on the reforms.

As exclusively stated in the Journal yesterday by Senor Canovas del Castillo, the Prime Minister of Spain, in a personal cable dispatch to this newspaper, that Government has acceded to the demands of the United States that the American prisoners in Cuba be given a retrial. Secretary of State Olney made official announcement of this fact yesterday.

Spain HAS BACKED DOWN. Secretary Olney Confirms the Journal's Exclusive Story of the Postponement of the Executions.

Washington, May 11.—The State Department gave out the following this morning:

"In the Competitor case it can be authoritatively stated that at the request of the United States the Spanish Government will postpone execution of the death sentences upon American citizens until the views of the United States respecting the application to their cases of the treaty of 1795 and the protocol of 1877 can be presented and considered."

All of the leading European papers commented on the Journal's dispatch from Senor Canovas and the strained relations between our Government and that of Spain.

Berlin papers showed great interest in the situation, and one said that Spain was trying to deceive the world with false reports of victories, and that if she measured swords with this republic Cuba was lost to her forever.

The leading London papers practically admit that America is right in the controversy and all declare that Spain is utterly unable to cope with this country in a war.

A member of the Spanish Cabinet told the Journal's correspondent in Madrid yesterday that America was right in protesting against the execution of her citizens and demanding a retrial.

The Minister believes that Spain's Supreme Court will declare the action of the drum-head court-martial null.

Weyler, the Captain-General of Cuba, it is reported, has resigned because the Government would not allow him to carry out the sentence. His resignation, however, was not accepted.

ENDORSES THE PROTEST.

Spanish Minister Thinks the American Claim is Just—Sharp Talk of the Madrid Press.

By Don Tassul de Alhama. Madrid, May 11.—One of the chief members of the Cabinet said to me last night in response to questions:

"The American note contains no menace and is not couched in violent terms. 'Indeed, it can hardly be called a note; it simply calls attention to the right of the American prisoners to be judged by ordinary proceedings, according to treaties. 'The American Government is right in making the protest.'"

The Minister afterwards expressed the opinion under reserve that the Supreme Court will declare the Havana proceedings null and will order a new trial with guarantees, as stipulated by the treaties.

Differences of Liberals. At a meeting last night of the Liberal ex-Ministers at the house of Senor there was a split on the reforms.